

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1, 6, 11, 18-23 and 25-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 6, 11 and 18-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,311,522 to Murakami.

Claims 1, 6, 8, 11 and 18-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,125,100 to Sensyu.

Murakami was cited in Fig. 3C for allegedly reading on the invention as claimed. Fig. 3C clearly shows that the 95-byte inner code blocks (95 bytes) of two product code blocks are interleaved. As can be seen in Fig. 3C, the inner code block of the leftmost product code block is followed by the inner code block of the next-to-leftmost product code block. By comparison, the present invention as recited in the amended claims recite that all of the code-H codewords of a given sector are output in a manner that there is no data from another sector among the outputted codewords. Fig. 3C of Murakami clearly does not show this aspect of the present invention.

Murakami at Fig. 3C clearly shows a 2-byte ID appended to the inner code blocks. It is clear that the ID is not coded. By comparison, the ID in the present invention is part of the data that is subject to code H processing and hence is coded. Therefore, Murakami does not show this aspect of the present invention.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the Section 102 rejection of the claims is earnestly believed to be overcome.

With respect to the Sensyu reference, the cited Fig. 6B very clearly shows that symbols from ECC blocks 26 and 27 are interleaved in the output stream 25. By comparison, the present invention as recited in the amended claims recite that all of the code-H codewords of a given sector are output in a manner that there is no data from another sector among the outputted codewords. Fig. 6B of Sensyu clearly does not show this aspect of the present invention.

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PATENT

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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